



# Canadian Heritage Breeds

December 2018

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Hello CHB Members!

We can hardly believe it - this is our last newsletter of 2018! As we look back on this past year as an organization, we are so pleased with the successful CHB programs and events and the involvement of our membership.

2019 promises to continue CHB's valuable work toward our mandate of "conservation through education". This issue of the CHB newsletter contains plenty of information about some of our upcoming events and news, with more to come!

Please remember to renew your CHB memberships before the end of the year (information on how to do so included in this newsletter on page 3). The upcoming year promises to be our best one yet, so we know you will find your membership to be valuable and rewarding!

Thank you all, our members, for your involvement in our organization. As always, if you wish to become involved with CHB in any capacity, or have feedback for the board, please reach out to us as we would love to hear from you!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, everyone! We look forward to seeing you all in 2019.

*Photo Credit: Shirley & Eric Froese*



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# About CHB

## What We Do

Our mandate is "Conservation through Education". **Shows:** Every year CHB organizes at least two poultry shows and has more recently begun to host dairy goat shows. Poultry and livestock shows are an excellent public forum to showcase and promote the dazzling and diverse assortment of chickens, turkeys, geese and ducks, as well as several breeds of goats. These exhibits also provide opportunities for people interested in breeding to connect one-on-one with top breeders.

**Information:** We compile and distribute quarterly newsletters to inform and inspire members. We conduct interviews with successful breeders to facilitate the sharing of their valuable knowledge and the insights they have gained through experience. CHB offers social media resources and networking opportunities to anyone interested in learning more and connecting with others in the world of heritage livestock.

**Support:** CHB strives to encourage and support heritage breed advocates through educational seminars and hands-on workshops. Our members provide youth and family mentoring, and we partner with other



organizations such as agricultural societies and 4-H to lend our support to their members and programs.

**Promotion:** We present displays of animals and printed materials at public venues to demonstrate the diversity of heritage breeds to both urban and rural people.



## Why Is This Important?

- \* Heritage livestock and poultry are the perfect alternative for non-commercial farmers and families interested in self-sustainable alternatives
- \* These animals allow producers to capitalize on unique and niche markets
- \* Protecting genetic resources and survival traits is a crucial strategy for ensuring future food supplies
- \* Heritage breeds are a living link to our agricultural history and culture
- \* Traditional livestock breeds are rapidly disappearing from the rural North American landscape, but keeping a current census of numbers is difficult. Some are on the verge of extinction and are in desperate need of saving.

# CHB 2019 Membership Renewal



## ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP



Remember, your annual membership expires December 31st.

Please renew online:

[www.canadianheritagebreeds.ca](http://www.canadianheritagebreeds.ca)

**2019 is gearing up to be an exciting year! We hope you'll be along for the ride!**

### You can advertise in the CHB Newsletters!

Ad pricing:

Full Page \$40.00 (8.5 x 11)

1/4 page or business card \$20.00

Contact us to submit your ad, or for more info:

[canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com](mailto:canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com)

### Become a Member

- Quarterly Newsletters and access to the Members Only area of the website
- Discounts or free access to select CHB Events
- Advertising opportunities
- The satisfaction of contributing to a great organization with lots of opportunities to become involved!

**Register online today!** Canadian Heritage Breeds is a Registered Non-Profit Society.

# Upcoming Events 2019

It's never too early to mark your calendar with these important dates!

January 19th	CHB Stony Plain Show (Double Show, held in conjunction with PMAPPS) – Stony Plain, AB
February 16th	CHB will be at North Central Alberta Poultry Association Show – Wetaskiwin, AB
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	K-Days Summer Poultry Show – Edmonton, AB
July 20th - 21st	K-Days Dairy Goat Show - Canadian Goat Society West National – Edmonton, AB
July 27th	CHB/Vermilion Fair Poultry Show – Vermilion, AB
Nov 2nd - 3rd	CHB Fall Show – Designated the APA Canadian National – Olds, AB

If you have other dates to add to our Newsletter Upcoming Events List, please get in touch with us!

Email: [canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com](mailto:canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com)



*Thank you to Peavey Mart for your ongoing support of  
Canadian Heritage Breeds!*

# PMAPPS & CHB ARE JOINING FORCES FOR A DOUBLE APA/ABA SANCTIONED SHOW



**JANUARY 19, 2019**

**Saturday from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

**Pavilion at Heritage Park**

**5100 - 41 Ave Stony Plain, AB**

**\$5 for 2 adults or \$3 each Children \$1**

**DOUBLE APA/ABA Sanctioned Poultry Show**

Fancy Pigeon show

Racing Homer Show

Junior Poultry Show

Sales Area

Chicken John's Petting Zoo

**All entries must be RECEIVED by Wednesday January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Contacts:

For Pigeons:

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**<http://www.albertapoultryandpigeon.com/>**

**<http://www.canadianheritagebreeds.ca/>**

# 2019 National Show Announcements!

2019 is shaping up to be a big year for CHB!

In July, we will be hosting the **Canadian Goat Society West National Dairy Show** in Edmonton as part of K Days. We are looking forward to welcoming exhibitors and animals from across Western Canada and are thrilled to be working with Northlands again this year! There will be cash payouts for every class, and we are anticipating the very best of the West to be on display, maybe even a few from the eastern provinces. We are working on confirming some high-profile American judges and are excited to have their take on the animals out here on the prairies. Stay tuned for more details in upcoming newsletters and on the CHB Facebook and website. If you are interested in helping with the Dairy National or the K Days Poultry Show, please get in touch!



After an exciting trip down to the APA Annual Meet in Shawnee, Oklahoma, I am very pleased to announce that CHB will also have the honour of hosting the **2019 APA Canadian National Show** at our Fall Show in Olds on the first weekend in November! Details are quickly coming together, and we have confirmed Bart Pals of Iowa and Merle Watson of Nova Scotia to judge. A few breed meets have also been lined up so far including Rhode Island Reds, Waterfowl, Leghorns, Cochins and Wyandottes. If anyone is a member of a breed club and would like to have a meet at the show, please get in touch. We have lots of exciting things in the works, and once again, if you would like to donate, volunteer or just generally be a part of the show, please get in touch!

Always thinking goats or birds,

Callum McLeod

# No Bird Brain

By: Liz Langley

PUBLISHED JANUARY 13, 2018

The domesticated animals we know as chickens descended from the red jungle fowl of Southeast Asia about 8,000 years ago.

Because the birds evolved in constantly changing environments that required searching for food daily, "it's not surprising that [they're] cognitively complex in certain things," such as spatial navigation, says Richard Blatchford, a poultry scientist at the University of California at Davis.

For instance, in experiments, trained chicks can judge absolute and relative distances to food even when those distances are changed.

"Chickens have been used to study animal cognition for a long time," he adds.

## Count Your Chickens

For instance, chickens can recognize up to 30 other individual chickens, and chicks imprint the image of their mother between 24 to 36 hours of hatching, says Dunkley. One study showed chicks "imprinted" to an image of a red triangle even if it was partly obscured—suggesting the birds can envision partially hidden objects in their minds. Not only that, the birds can recognize and discern people based on their faces. And they apparently like beautiful humans.

A 2002 paper found that [chickens have the same preference for certain human faces as do humans](#), "keying in on things like symmetry" in features—one of the subconscious measures of attractiveness, Blatchford says.

In the study, the scientists trained four hens to react to photographs of an average female face but not an

average male face, and vice versa for two cocks. Then, the team showed these trained birds pictures of faces with exaggeratedly masculine and feminine traits.

The chickens pecked more at screens showing symmetrical faces—revealing the same preferences as the 14 people who had done the same experiment.

The study is limited in that it only tested a small number of chickens and humans. But the results may suggest the mutual admiration for symmetry is rooted in the nervous system, and not necessarily due to cultural influences.

Wow. What could be more humiliating than a chicken who sees you and swipes left?



Source:

<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2018/01/animals-chickens-evolution-eggs-food/>

# The Greatest Gift

By: Crystal McKinnon



Mentorship is a relationship in which a more experienced or more knowledgeable person helps to guide a less experienced or less knowledgeable person. The mentor may be older or younger than the person being mentored, but he or she must have a certain area of expertise. (As defined by *Wikipedia*.)

We cannot change what we do not know.

WE all have looked to someone, read, or even asked Dr. Google for knowledge. But, what we need most is human connection...and even perhaps to make a few mistakes and gain experience from that. We do not need to do this alone, where is the fun in that?

I am going to give a poultry show perspective on this topic.

When I first started showing poultry I knew nothing. Sure, it is a chicken, it's a bird and it has feathers. I would look at my flock and a few birds would stand out BUT other than that. Nothing. But, I had a desire to learn, with nowhere to turn. So, I kept stumbling about. I knew what I liked BUT no idea as to why. Then CHB started with a few basic classes and this is where I first started to meet mentors. I would listen to them talk because I didn't even know the questions to ask. I would listen to the judges talk at a poultry show as they talked about other breeds. I focused on my breed of poultry and with the SOP in my hand I started to make connections. A piece of knowledge here and there does build, and the years add up.

I now make it my mission to connect with someone new at every show. I want to build a relationship with the young and the old. I would love to start a coffee chat group and meet up once a month and chat chickens. Give support, learn together because I sure do not know everything. But, the adventure through mentorship would be priceless.

I encourage everyone to share a bit of time with someone new. Share the successes and failures. Make the connection. Take the time. I think this would be the greatest gift for the New Year.

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## News from Rare Breeds Canada

Do you know your goat history? Part 3:  
Toggenburgs

Toggenburgs or Toggs as they are affectionately called by their admirers were without doubt the most popular breed of registered goat in Canada; at the turn of the 20th Century. Between 1917 and 1922 entries for the breed in the first CGS (Canadian Goat Society) Herd Book, almost outnumbered the Angora, Nubian and Saanen breeds combined - 405 Toggs entered the record; whilst all other recordings totalled 415.



A tentative breed standard for the Toggenburg stated that bucks should range from 130 to 180 pounds in weight and does from 100 to 130 pounds once mature. Bucks were expected to be masculine and heavy set, whilst females were regarded as feminine but not fine. Colouring from light fawn to dark brown was acceptable. White striping on either side of the face, white along the side under the tail and body and on the legs between the thighs and down to the hooves passed inspection. Of course, wattles on either side of the neck for both sexes completed the standard for Toggenburgs. Toggs were highly regarded at the time because of their capacity to milk - "high grade" first freshening does could milk on average a gallon a day.

A record lactation at the time referred to as "splendid" by a BC Agricultural Goat Bulletin, gave a figure of 2,941 pounds of milk in 365 days.

Kittie, a female inspected Togg, was the first ever entry in CGS records for the breed. Kittie, born on April 5th 1916 was owned by John M. Spowart of Central Park, BC. Admiral Dewey B 1928A, the first male, owned by D Mowat of McKay, BC, came from Pacific Grove, California and had a birth date of March 16<sup>th</sup> 1917. Dewey B, was reported to be hornless and have brown, true markings. However, he was not the most influential buck of his time, credit there must be given to Don Hermes de Las Cabritas (number 28 in the CGS Herd Book). Don Hermes sired both the first male and female Canadian bred, pure Toggenburgs - Ilkey Judy (female) bred by George Jeffery of Central Park, BC was born on April 29th 1918. Lilac Lodge Alexander was born just under a year later, on March 18th 1919, his colouring indicated him as chocolate with correct white markings and as being hornless. Norley F. Tunbridge also retained his full sister (Lilac Lodge Pauline) in her herd, located in Penticton, BC.

Although there was a heavy concentration of Toggs in BC, they could also be found in Saskatchewan, Alberta and Ontario. The most notable breeders - those who had the most influence on the breed; were the owners of El Bar Ranch, in New Westminster, BC. Alongside others they imported goats from Montana, Washington, Pennsylvania and California. Don Hermes, came from 'The Little Goat Ranch' in Montara, California, home to the herd of Richards and Wagner.

#### **Richards and Wagner**

The *Daly City Record*, based in Half Moon Bay, California reported in their District News in 1914, that "The Richard

Toggenburg farm at Montara has several new kids and they are beauties. Latin and Greek Dictionaries are being searched for suitable names." Although quoted as being the Richard Toggenburg farm, the farm was a partnership between Morris Wagner (the daughter of an artist, who built a retreat style colony in Montara) and Irmagarda Richards (a scholar who also authored "The Modern Milch Goat" and helped to establish a dairy goat association in California - amongst many other accomplishments). The "Little Goat Farm" nestled in Montara, south of San Francisco began when Wagner (by then the Postmaster) purchased some Toggenburg goats.

After meeting Richards, who helped her to improve the overall husbandry and health of her animals, the farm blossomed to at one point having 200 goats. An outlet was found for all the milk from the does' by selling it to hospices in the area. Doctor's believed that the goats' milk was beneficial particularly to sick children, with tuberculosis. For the partnership it was not about the money they earned, but the fact they could use their goats to help society in general, that was most important to the ladies. Their enterprise thrived for many years until unfortunately with the advent of modern baby formula, the need for a constant supply of raw goat milk came to an end and "The Little Goat Farm" ceased to exist. However, it's effects could be felt throughout the early development of the Toggenburg breed in Canada.

Today, Rare Breeds Canada lists the Toggenburg, as it has done for many years as "endangered", despite its promising beginnings, the trend did not continue into the later half of the 20th century - certainly in terms of those registering their Toggenburgs.

**AUTHORS NOTE:** The original Post Office where Morris Wagner worked is still open, as a Bed and Breakfast, if you fancy a break and want to go on a Togg history tour - the Goose and Turret Bed And Breakfast is open for business, [goose.montara.com](http://goose.montara.com). Also, if anyone has any information available regarding the El Bar Ranch, I'd really appreciate hearing about it - to complete this fascinating history would be wonderful! Contact me at [goatpackgetaways@yahoo.ca](mailto:goatpackgetaways@yahoo.ca)

With thanks to Sharon Hunt, General Manager of the Canadian Goat Society for the use of the original CGS Herd Record Book, which was invaluable in writing these accounts.

# Thinking About Spring in January!

By Kathy Stevenson

January is often considered the most depressing month. The Christmas rush is over and the cold, dark days can leave folks feeling irritable and lethargic. For me, the number one way to beat the January blues is getting together with friends and fellow enthusiasts at the first poultry show of the year in Stony Plain! The second-best way is to start planning for spring chicks.

I run an old, but reliable GQF Sportsman incubator and hatcher. They don't need much routine maintenance, but this is a good time to look them over and check to see that I have the most common replacement parts on hand. I don't want to be caught without a spare wafer and thermostat switch if something fails. I also buy extra batteries for my digital thermometers, hygrometer and egg candler. After my last hatch in the spring I do a thorough cleaning of the equipment itself, but somehow my incubator room always becomes a catch-all storage area, so I also need to spend some time re-organizing and clearing out this space.



*My incubator room*

For me, January is also time to organize birds into appropriate mating pens. I'll take some time to study last year's incubating, hatching and growing records to look for trends and outcomes that I might not have noticed during the spring and summer when the chicks were growing fast and the focus was just keeping them all healthy, happy and well fed. I'll compare my best pullets with the older hens to see if I managed to make improvements over the previous year, and then make final decisions on which birds make it into 2019 breeding pens.

I'm limited in the number of chicks I can reasonably hatch and brood – especially early in the spring when we are still dealing with cold, damp weather. I have to plan well to make sure I'll have adequate space available....not only for brooding baby chicks, but also looking ahead to predict how much indoor room they'll need until they are mature enough – and the weather is mild enough – for them to start going outside. So through the winter I'll need to clear out extra birds I had kept for back-up breeders. Pen space during early spring is at a premium, and it's important to use it in the best way possible.

We don't always have control over when our hens will be laying well, or even when the roosters will be performing at their best. But it's a good feeling to know you're prepared early and ready to go when it's time to start the exciting season of egg collecting and hatching. Whether your spring will be filled with calves, kids, lambs or other livestock, take some time now to gear up and be ready for new spring babies!

# 8<sup>th</sup> Annual CHB Fall Show Results

The first weekend in Alberta is always a wildcard when it comes to weather, this year we had a mixture of freezing fog, light snow and temperatures around 0. This is a vast improvement on last year's -25 and blizzard. Along with a slightly better weather forecast, this year's show moved down the road to the lovely town of Olds, and into the Cow Palace, a spacious, climate controlled venue with great lighting, all the amenities you could ask for and free Wi-Fi to top it all off! The show attracted exhibitors from across Alberta and Manitoba, who brought strong classes of birds, with even numbers of large fowl, bantams and waterfowl. It was our pleasure to welcome Don Nelson of Rhode Island to Alberta to judge the APA District 11 Meet. Some highlights of the day were the running of the runners for judging in the ring, watching some budding young exhibitors flex their poultry muscles in the showmanship class and to just sit back and relax with old and new friends alike in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. A few people deserve some special recognition; Jean Kinnear worked magic to coordinate local sponsorship for the show and line up a stellar set up crew, Mike Skeels made all the cages and show supplies magically appear at the venue and find their way back to storage, Kathy Stevenson and Rico Sebastianelli corralled the kids and ran a successful Junior Showmanship competition, all the while Crystal McKinnon organized a makers market awhile keeping us all smiling and on budget. The birds get us in the door, but it is a fun, supportive and engaged group of people that keep us coming back time and time again. Hope to see everyone again In January at the Double Show in Stony Plain!

Best American	White Wyandotte Pullet, Bryan Shelton
Reserve American	Single Comb Rhode Island Red Cockerel, Crystal McKinnon
Best Asiatic	Black Langshan Pullet, Leila Kinnear
Reserve Asiatic	Black Cochon Pullet, Kathy Stevenson
Best English	Black Orpington Cockerel, Kris Skeels
Reserve English	Black Orpington Pullet, Kris Skeels
Best Mediterranean	Andalusian Hen, Kathy Stevenson
Reserve Mediterranean	Sing Comb Silver Leghorn Hen, C-R Ducks
Best Continental	Barnevelder Pullet, Piet Van Genugten
Reserve Continental	Silver Spangled Hamburg Pullet, C-R Ducks
Best AOSB`	Black Ameraucana Hen, Davey Matthews
Champion Large Fowl	White Wyandotte Pullet, Bryan Shelton
Reserve Large Fowl	Barnevelder Pullet, Piet Van Genugten
Best Game Bantam	Wheaten Old English Game Cock, Silver Ridge Aviaries
Reserve Game Bantam	Black Old English Game Cock, C-R Ducks
Best SCCL	Light Brown Dutch Cockerel, Silver Ridge Aviaries
Reserve SCCL	Single Comb Light Brown Leghorn Pullet, C-R Ducks
Best RCCL	Black Rosecomb Pullet, C-R Ducks
Reserve RCCL	White Wyandotte Hen, MC Squared
Best AOCCL	White Cornish Hen, Bryan Shelton
Reserve AOCCL	White Cornish Cock, Bryan Shelton
Best Feather Leg	Black Cochon Hen, C-R Ducks
Reserve Feather Leg	Buff Brahma Cockerel, Mountain View Ranches
Best Bantam	Black Cochon Hen, C-R Ducks
Reserve Bantam	Wheaten Old English Game Cock, Silver Ridge Aviaries

Best Turkey	Chocolate Cockerel, Stuckey Boys Livestock and Poultry
Reserve Turkey	Chocolate Pullet, Stuckey Boys Livestock and Poultry
Best Land Fowl	Black Cochin Hen, C-R Ducks
Reserve Land Fowl	White Wyandotte Pullet, Bryan Shelton
Best Bantam Duck	White Call Cockerel, J&J Call Ducks & Indies
Reserve Bantam Duck	East Indie Cock, J&J Call Ducks & Indies
Best Light Duck	Welsh Harlequin Cockerel, Jean Kinnear
Reserve Light Duck	White Runner Cock, Stuckey Boys Livestock and Poultry
Best Medium Duck	Cayuga Pullet, Mountain View Ranches
Reserve Medium Duck	Cayuga Pullet, Mountain View Ranches
Best Heavy Duck	Rouen Hen, C-R Ducks
Reserve Heavy Duck	Saxony Hen, Robyn Andersen
Best Duck	Welsh Harlequin Cockerel, Jean Kinnear
Reserve Duck	White Call Cockerel, J&J Call Ducks & Indies
Best Light Goose	Tufted Roman Pullet, Callum McLeod
Reserve Light Goose	White Chinese Cockerel, Bryan Shelton
Best Medium Goose	Buff American Cockerel, Robyn Andersen
Reserve Medium Goose	Grey Saddleback Pomeranian Pullet, Stuckey Boys Livestock and Poultry
Best Heavy Goose	Brown African Cock, Bryan Shelton
Reserve Heavy Goose	Embden Pullet, Crystal McKinnon
Best Goose	Brown African Cock, Bryan Shelton
Reserve Goose	Tufted Roman Pullet, Callum McLeod
Best Waterfowl	Welsh Harlequin Cockerel, Jean Kinnear
Reserve Waterfowl	Brown African Cock, Bryan Shelton
Show Champion	Black Cochin Hen, C-R Ducks
Reserve Show Champion	Welsh Harlequin Cockerel, Jean Kinnear
Best Junior Bantam	Silver Duckwing Old English Game Hen, Zander Ewert
Reserve Junior Bantam	Single Comb Light Brown Leghorn Hen, Jillian Skeels
Best Junior Large Fowl	Black Langshan Pullet, Leila Kinnear
Reserve Junior Large Fowl	Blue Cochin Hen, Masen Grover
Best Junior Waterfowl	Black Runner Pullet, Justin Skeels
Reserve Junior Waterfowl	Silver Apricot Call Hen, Coleton Dawe
Best Junior Egg	Karis Kinnear
Reserve Junior Egg	Reece Kinnear
Best Junior	Black Langshan Pullet, Leila Kinnear
Reserve Junior	Blue Cochin Hen, Mason Grover

# 2018 Annual General Meeting - Minutes

Location: Olds Cow Palace, Olds Alberta

Date: Friday, November 2, 2018 @ 6:30 pm

Attendance: Callum McLeod, Michelle Sulz, Crystal McKinnon, Kathy Stevenson, Rico Sebastianelli, Samantha and Bruce Christopher, Robyn Andersen, Steve Sulz

1. Call to Order  
Callum welcomed members and called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.
2. Additions and Approval of Agenda  
Crystal moved to approve the agenda with one addition: 7c – Peavey Mart Coordinator. Seconded by Michelle. Carried.
3. Approval of 2017 AGM Minutes  
Minutes from the 2017 AGM were approved as circulated by Robyn. Seconded by Rico. Carried.
4. President's Report  
Callum spoke on the many successes of 2018, beginning with the new partnerships with Northlands and Olds Regional Exhibition. The expansion to goat shows was a great step forward, and it has been encouraging to see interest and involvement from new families. The youth program slipped a bit this year so will need to be re-evaluated to determine the best way to move forward.
5. Financial Report  
Crystal distributed reports on operational and show costs, budgets and income. She reviewed the financial Report. Cash balance, Nov 1: \$9,803.92, with projected Fall Show costs estimated at \$4,950.00. Crystal moved to approve the financial report as presented.
  - a. Auditor of 2018 Financial Statements  
This year's auditing of Financials will be done by Robyn and Callum.
6. Old Business - Nothing to report.
7. New Business
  - a. 2019 CHB events and programs
    - The K Days summer show is confirmed for poultry and dairy goats and is designated 2019 Dairy Goat National Show. Callum submitted an ambitious budget for the goat show; poultry show budget is not yet drafted.
    - CHB is partnering with PMAPPS to host a double show in January. Rico will collect entries for both shows. PM is APA provincial meet. If an exhibitor chooses to enter only 1 show, PM show is default. Judges: Mark Dooms and Emmet Wilde.
    - A bid for Canadian National has been submitted for 2019 Fall show.
    - Future Ideas for CHB events: An open discussion took place to encourage members to offer thoughts on possible activities and ways to engage members: Fall event at Lacombe Ag Society, all members invited to join a conference call to offer feedback and suggestions, include a game bird show (Rico will contact POAA).
  - b. Election of Officers  
Kathy has completed her term in the position of secretary. With no other nominations for the position, Kathy agreed to continue as secretary for another 3-year term.
  - c. Peavey Mart Coordinator  
Rico has had no response from the new Peavey Mart coordinator but will continue to try, and if successful will offer to arrange a meeting with CHB board members.
8. Adjournment: President, Callum McLeod announced the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.